



## NPCK SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

### *Potato Cyst Nematode baseline survey progression*

PCN baseline study which commenced on July 2016 is funded by FAO and is being implemented by a consortium of scientists and potato experts from NPCK, KEPHIS, MoALF, CIP, KALRO, IITA, ICIPE, University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University. The sample collection and analysis is ongoing in 20 potato growing counties. The project also incorporates a component of distributing certified seed potato to farmers to reduce spread of diseases and NPCK and KALRO-Tigoni will be involved in developing modalities for distribution. NPCK and MoALF also will coordinate Training, awareness creation and education for potato farmers, seed producers and stakeholders on PCN control and management while NPCK and FAO will play key role in designing of a road map for long-term management and control of the PCN.

### *Mapping potato farmers in Elgeyo Marakwet*

NPCK has partnered with CIP through Feed the Future-AVCD project in which NPCK role is to help increase the access and use of high quality

### **PAST /ONGOING / UPCOMING**

#### *The Potato magazine*

This is a biannual magazine whose edito rial will be covering corporate profiles of businesses in the sub sector, Industry news and events, Research & Development and other issues related to potato production, marketing, processing, and consumption. The 1st Issue of Potato magazine was released in September. Downloaded [here](#)

#### *The APA 10th Triennial Conference 2016*

The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoALF), the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR) and the International Potato Center (CIP) will be co-hosting the 10th Triennial Conference of the African Potato Association in Ethiopia. The conference will be held in October 9th to



seed potato by linking seed potato multipliers to farmers. This initiative also seeks to address the challenges of ware potato marketing by linking ware potato farmers to market outlets. The project began by mapping potato farmers in the county as the first step of implementation process. The farmer's details captured

include; farmer's name, farm group, phone number, acreage under potato, seed type, variety grown, target market and GPS coordinates

### ***The 2017 Potato Variety Catalogue***

NPCK is in the process of developing the 2017 Potato Variety catalogue where 9,000 copies will be printed and distributed. Characteristics of over 50 varieties registered with KEPHIS will be described in the catalogue. The initiative aims at enhancing awareness about the released varieties and helps create linkages between the seed potato growers and ware potato producers.

### ***3rd Speaker's Round Table convened at the Pride Inn Beach Resort & Convention Center on 28th -30th July, 2016***

The Speaker's Round table is one of the Public-Private Dialogue engagement platforms established by KEPSA to foster dialogue on policy and legislative issues of concern to the Private Sector in relation to Kenya's Economic development. The theme of the 3rd Speaker's Roundtable, where NPCK was represented by CEO Mr. Wachira Kaguongo was: "Securing Kenya's Competitiveness through an enabling Legislative Framework". The meeting focused on two areas namely, 1) Enhancing Kenya's competitiveness and the country's election

13th, 2016 in Addis Ababa at the ECA Conference Center. Five papers from NPCK's staff will be presented. The 10th Triennial Conference brings together researchers, development agents and the private sector to exchange experiences... [Read More](#)

### ***NPCK Membership***

The NPCK's revised Business Charter highlights the new areas of business engagement with partners in potato subsector. The new services provided by the Council will not only help improve businesses for the actors and partners but will also be a source of income that will help in sustainability of NPCK. Download the membership form [here](#)

### ***University of Eldoret trade fair.***

The just concluded Eldoret trade fair (22nd - 24th September 2016) featured the Holland Pavilion in which several activities were lined up for the public.



65 Dutch companies representing the entire

preparedness and 2) Mitigating the impact of the 2017 General Elections on business [Read more](#)

### ***Lobby for implementation of regulations on potato marketing standards***

NPCK together with key stakeholders have been lobbying for implementation of regulations on potato packaging and pricing by weight. The gazettment of Public notice on 13th November 2014 on maximum 50 Kgs packaging bag and the launch of implementation of eradication of extended bag was a big milestone. The industry expected that these regulations will not only be adopted at the national level, but also at the County levels. The implementation kicked off well and achievements were conspicuous and appreciated. The implementation of this regulation however went into disarray after a few persons purporting to be farmers filed a case against the implementation of the law. NPCK is working with the MoALF, County governments and other key players to fast track the case and address existing bottlenecks to ensure farmers maximize benefit from their produce.

### ***Establishment of potato typical farms in Nakuru County***

NPCK in partnership with Agri- benchmark is in the process of establishing model potato farms in Nakuru County for the purpose of analyzing competitiveness and potentials of the region. The profit analysis to be obtained will be used to compare the performance of the region with other potato growing regions nationally and globally.

value chains of the Dairy, Aquaculture, Horticulture & Potato sectors were present at the pavilion. [Read more](#)

### ***African Agri Investment Indaba***

In partnership with WESGRO and the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, NPCK and the African Agri Council invites you to attend the 2016 African Agri Investment Indaba. NPCK has negotiated a 10% discount on the registration fee, for all NPCK members, at the Indaba by simply quoting the code: NPCK. [Read more](#)

### ***Olx farmers training in Nyandarua Country***

OLX, in partnership with Mavuno fertilizers visited Nyandarua County on 23rd August 2016 where they held training with farmers on best potato practices. OLX, who recently launched their agriculture category are working closely with potato farmers in the region to add value to farmers by facilitating trade of their potatoes at affordable prices while

## *Alliance for Green Revolution Africa Forum (AGRF) 2016*

The key stakeholders in potato value chain convened at AGRF to further their collaboration through an existing regional potato consortium where NPCK is a member. The goal of the consortium is to increase regional production and supply of this high-potential commodity by addressing bottlenecks across the value chains through coordinated action. It aims at ensuring farmers have a ready market for their produce and processors will get a steady supply of quality potatoes. To achieve this, the 2016 AGRF brought together heads of state and government, farmer organizations, business leaders, development partners, researchers, and finance & investment leads. The delegates shared their insights on how to create, align and leverage financial, technical, policy and market-expanding resources to develop game-changing and inclusive agribusiness models for Africa.[Read more](#)

supplying best quality fertilizers.



The training aimed at enlightening farmers on quality fertilizers for their potatoes with an aim of helping them increase [Read more](#)

National Potato Council of Kenya | Located at KALRO Kabete Campus, Off Waiyaki Way, P.O BOX 29982-00100  
Nairobi, Kenya  
| Tel: +254 712 338 633/ +254 202411921 |E: [npck@mpck.org](mailto:npck@mpck.org) W: [mpck.org](http://mpck.org)